

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

July 17, 2012

Shawn Garvin
Administrator
EPA Region 3
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

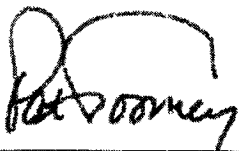
Dear Administrator Garvin,

We are writing in support of the watershed plan proposed by AMD Reclamation (AMDRI) for Dunkard Creek, an impaired waterway of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania under the Clean Water Act. This measure is also supported by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP). Rising mine water from the Shannopin Mine is a threat to the surrounding aquatic environment and local mining activities. This proposal would afford the watershed considerable environmental benefits and allow the mining to continue, which is needed during this anemic economic recovery.


AMDRI has been treating the Shannopin Mine water since 2004, at a cost of approximately \$2 million per year. Dana Mining has paid for 100% of the expenses for these pollution mitigation measures. Without Dana's contributions, these costs would be derived from the taxpayers of the Commonwealth. The proposed watershed plan will build on these successes and accomplish the goal sets forth in the 2007 Dunkard Creek TMDL. In doing so, there will be a net reduction in pollutant loading and an elimination of pollutant sources directly associated with historical fish kills. This is accomplished by the plan's emphasis on the remediation of orphan acid mine drainage seeps which are one of the causes of "dead zones" between the upper reaches of Dunkard Creek and the Monongahela River. Lastly, the proposal establishes a trust fund to ensure the long term treatment of the Shannopin Mine water.

In addition, approving this plan will also mean that over 600 Pennsylvanians will remain employed and that more American energy can be produced. This is a win-win proposition. Rejection of this project would result in a job killing unfunded mandate, which would be unfortunate. We encourage you to continue your cooperative efforts with the PA DEP, AMDRI, and Dana and come to a conclusion as soon as feasibly possible. We respectfully request that you keep our offices apprised of the developments regarding this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator Pat Toomey



Representative Bill Shuster



Fw: AMDRI Letter

Laura Mohollen to: Janice Donlon, Michael DAndrea

Cc: Jeannine Graff

07/18/2012 09:12 AM

Would you like me to have this put into CMS?

Pennsylvania/ West Virginia
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----- Forwarded by Laura Mohollen/R3/USEPA/US on 07/18/2012 09:11 AM -----

From: "Doyle, Brett (Toomey)" <Brett_Doyle@toomey.senate.gov>
To: Laura Mohollen/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 07/18/2012 09:06 AM
Subject: FW: AMDRI Letter

Laura,

Please find the attached letter to Administrator Garvin signed by Senator Toomey and Representative Shuster. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out.

Best,

Brett Doyle
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Washington, DC 20510
Main: (202) 224-4254

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